GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2675
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2016
Permanent Patta to Tribals
Bhuria,Shri Kantilal

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to give permanent patta of land to tribal who had been living on forest land prior to the year 1980;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of applicants who received their right and the number of denied who cases and the reasons of denial?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA)
(a) (b) & (c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs administers the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA in short) which was notified for operation with effect from 31.12.2007. It is an act to recognize and vest the Forest Rights and occupation in forests land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded. These are usufruct rights and not ownership rights.

The recognition and vesting of forest rights under the said act to the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and to other traditional forest dwellers in relation to any State or Union Territory in respect of forest land and their habitat is subject to the condition that such Scheduled Tribes or tribal communities or other traditional forest dwellers had occupied forest land before the 13th day of December, 2005.

As per FRA and the rules made thereunder, the responsibility for implementation of FRA lies with the State Governments/ UTs.

As per information received from the States/ UTs till 31.12.2015, 44,13,727 claims have been filed and 17,11,045 titles have been distributed, number of claims rejected being 2,064,536.

The major reasons for rejection of claims that have come to the notice of this Ministry are non-occupation of forest land as on 13.12.2005, claims being made on land other than forest land/revenue land, multiple claims and lack of evidence of residing on the forest land for the specified period of time (this is particularly in the case of Other Traditional Forest Dwellers).
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